

**TODAY and
TOMORROW**

Nipped In The Bud

A STRIKING proof of Nippon's determination to leave no loophole for the Anglo-Americans to sneak back to East Asia is afforded by the recent developments in French Indo-China. Nippon and France entered, immediately on the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, into an agreement for military co-operation for the joint defence of French Indo-China. This agreement Nippon has scrupulously observed all these days, as Premier Koiso declared at the recent Imperial Diet session. Even after the military and political situation in France underwent a drastic change in August last year, Nippon contrived to co-operate with French officials and troops in French Indo-China for the joint defence of the country. But with the new developments in Metropolitan France, the French authorities gradually altered their attitude, assuming—in the words of Premier Koiso—a passive non-co-operative stand. And it became more and more apparent that they were secretly trying to communicate with anti-Axis elements in France.

Considering the military situation surrounding French Indo-China the Nippon Government through its authorities on the spot, repeatedly negotiated with the French Indo-China authorities with a view to finding necessary measures for effective co-operation in joint defence. But the French authorities showed no sincerity, and merely indulged in passive tactics. Judging that the situation permitted no further dragging negotiations, the Nippon Government on March 9 instructed its envoy to request final reconsideration and ask Governor-General Decoux to take concrete steps required for strengthening co-operation in joint defence. These requests, however, were rejected on various pretexts. Nippon was therefore compelled to assume the responsibility of defending Indo-China single-handedly.

The action taken by Nippon in that region needs no vindication. It was eminently the right thing done at the right moment. Far from having to be apologetic about it, Nippon can well be proud that she nipped a vile conspiracy in the bud. This has only strengthened the confidence of all East Asians that their interests are being most vigilantly looked after by Nippon forces.

Nippon has no territorial designs whatever on Indo-China, as her Premier has categorically declared. In fact the treason of the French authorities in Indo-China has given a grand opportunity to Nippon to set the Annamese on the road to independence, as in the case of Burma, the Philippines and Indonesia. All East Asia is predestined to be free as the result of the Greater East Asia War. Nothing can stop it—neither the Anglo-Americans nor their accomplices.

UNITY 495 FAITH

AZAD HIND

SACRIFICE

161 & 163, Cecil St., Syonan.

ENGLISH

EDITION

Tel. Nos. 3491 & 3492 Ext. 7

Vol. 2.—No. 60.

Organ of the Indian Independence League Headquarters.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2605, SYOWA 20

7 Cents

NIPPON F.I.C. POLICY NOW MADE CLEAR

Authorities In Saigon Issue Far-Reaching & Vital Statement

Saigon, March 13 (Domei)—The headquarters of the Nippon Army in French Indo-China on the evening of March 12 issued a five-point statement expressing its firm determination to fulfil the duty of defending French Indo-China to the last and at the same time clarifying its policy of making no change in the governments of the native peoples.

The gist of the statement follows:

Firstly, the emergency measure at present taken has been necessitated by a breach of faith on the part of the F.I.C. authorities for the joint defence of F.I.C.

Secondly, the Nippon Army stationed in F.I.C. is firmly resolved to fulfil its duty of defending F.I.C. jointly with the governments of the native peoples.

Thirdly, all existing laws shall be respected without making any change to the governments of the native peoples.

Fourthly, all nationals, whether they be French or Annamese or other nationality shall be permitted to remain in their vocations so long as they co-operate with the Nippon Army.

Fifthly, the Nippon Army will extend wholehearted support to healthy racial movements which are based on the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asiatic Nations.

Meanwhile, quarters close to the Nippon Army said as clearly stated in the five-point statement, no change will be made to the governments of native peoples which mean that the kingdoms of Annam, Cambodia, and Luang Prabang for instance will be permitted.

Regarding Cochinchina, and Tongking separate announcements are expected to be made shortly, but it is safe to assume the present government adopted by France will probably be followed without alteration, with the government of Cochinchina and Tongking permitted to function as they are.

Cambodia Proclaims Full Independence

Phnom Penh, Mar. 13 (Domei)—Following the Emperor of Annam's decision to repudiate the Franco-Annamite Treaty and the declaration of Annam's independence on March 11, King Norodom Shihanouk of Cambodia at 10 o'clock this morning issued a declaration abrogating the Franco-Cambodia Treaty and announcing the independence of the kingdom.

Censure Motion Disallowed To Avoid Defeat

Assembly Denounces India Delegation To 'Frisco Confab

The Opposition in the Central Legislature tabled two adjournment motions with a view to censuring the British authorities on their selection of the Indian delegates to the forthcoming London and San Francisco Conferences. The Indian delegation is reported to consist of notorious "yes-men" of the British Raj—all belted knights. The leader of the delegation is Sir Ramasami Mudaliar, with Sir Feroz Khan Noon as Deputy Leader, and Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, associate delegate. Mr. K. P. S. Menon, the present Government of India representative in Chungking, will be Secretary to the Delegation.

The Opposition contended that the British authorities have chosen a delegation of this sort purely with a view to further tightening British imperialistic stranglehold on India. The adjournment motions, however, were ruled out on the ground that the Indian Assembly has no power to question the discretionary action of the British Viceroy by whom the personnel of the Indian delegation has been chosen. The ruling out of the adjournment motions is only yet another convincing proof of the undiluted autocracy and dictatorship of the British Raj in India.

exported to Britain and America as per instructions laid down from time to time by what is known as the Allied Resources Board in Washington. The cut motion was carried by a huge majority.

BIG SCALE WAR LOOMS IN SECTORS EAST OF MANILA

A Nippon Base on Luzon Island, Mar. 12 (Domei)—The war situation on Luzon Island has begun to assume an animated aspect, particularly in the sector east of Manila and Lingayen Gulf. With the resumption of the offensive in the sector east of Manila on the evening of Mar. 7, the enemy began to concentrate his attacks on the eastern side of Montalban, approximately 12 kilometres north-east of Marikina as well as the sector fronting Antipolo. Particularly in the latter sector there are signs of an intensified battle.

In the vicinity of Moron, approximately seven kilometres east of Laguna De Bay, approximately 400 enemy troops equipped with trenchmortars made their appearance, and are now attempting to aggrandize their force.

BRITISH POLITICAL POWER IN INDIA DECLINING; MASS UNREST NOW HITS CLIMAX

Govt. Of India Suffers Another Crushing Defeat

While the political power of the British authorities in the provinces is rapidly dwindling, their power in the Centre is weakening even faster. According to a New Delhi report, two more censure motions were passed against the Government on Monday in the Central Assembly when the voting on the budget was resumed. One of them was a cut motion refusing the grant for the Food Department on the ground that the British authorities' food policy in India is deliberately meant to increase the suffering and misery of the masses by depriving them of their food. The opposition members also condemned the unlimited powers of the provincial authorities who are using all means at their disposal to grab the entire food-stocks of the people for feeding the Anglo-American armed forces in the country. This cut motion was passed by a thumping majority.

The other cut motion on which also the Government was beaten, denounced the British authorities' textile control policy in India. Opposition members speaking on the cut motion, said that the Government control over production and distribution of textile goods as well as the allotment of quotas for the provinces, have resulted in great hardships for the masses. In the course of the debate, it was revealed that the lion's share of the cotton textiles produced in India was

(Continued in previous column)

N.W.F. Province Ministry Collapses In Face Of United Opposition

The collapse of yet another British-sponsored Ministry in India clearly reflecting the growing weakness of the British political power in the country, is the highlight of the news received here yesterday. According to a New Delhi report, the united opposition of all parties in the North-West Frontier Province has driven the present British-sponsored ministry out of office. Following the passage of a no-confidence motion against it by a large majority, the ministry headed by Sardar Aurangzeb Khan had no other alternative but to resign en bloc. Accordingly, the Aurangzeb Ministry's resignation was officially announced on Monday afternoon in a communique issued from the British Governor's official residence in Peshawar.

The Governor, the communique stated, has asked Sardar Aurangzeb Khan and his colleagues to carry on the administration temporarily until another ministry is organised. But in the opinion of well-informed political observers, the Frontier Governor will not be able to solve the deadlock in view of the fact that the entire opposition headed by the former Congress Premier Dr. Khan Saheb, is against helping the British war effort, and is bent upon putting all possible obstacles in the way of the British authorities.

Meanwhile, the British-sponsored Ministry in Sind which was repeatedly defeated and was forced to resign, but which has been carrying on at the special request of their British masters, is also reported to have finally collapsed. Unofficial reports from Karachi state that due to severe opposition from his own party and from others as well, the Premier Sir Ghulam Hidayatullah Khan has found it impossible to carry on any further, and he has consequently approached the Governor with a request to relieve him of his office immediately.

Nippon Forces Rout Zamboanga Invaders

A Nippon Base in Mindanao, March 13 (Domei)—Enemy forces which landed on Zamboanga, Mindanao, penetrated into the Formen airfield supported by warplanes and ship bombardment but were thrown into utter confusion and disorder by Nippon forces who all day long on March 11 subjected the enemy to terrific shelling.

Nippon shock troops also made close-range attacks upon the enemy.

Darlan Technique In Indochina Condemned

Rangoon, March 13 (Domei)—Declaring he is in complete agreement with the Nippon Army's action in French Indo-China, Adipadi Ba Maw in a verbal statement at a press conference yesterday said it was effected "not a bit too soon nor too much." He added in fact "since the Darlan affair, French policy had become nakedly pragmatic," and the action would have been justified even earlier. "The Darlan technique was from the point of view of certain Frenchmen 'successful in the West,'" he said, adding since then it seems to have become "part of French national policy itself." The Adipadi stated the Darlan technique was used against Burma's allies in the West not once but several times. It is clearly the duty of East Asia to see to it that it is not repeated with success in the East.

Pointing out that Indo-China is too vital to the East Asiatic defence system and its lifeline for East Asiatic nations to take any risks there, Ba Maw stated Nippon therefore "was dead right" in taking necessary steps to wipe out Darlanism in that sector.

There is another angle to the recent Nippon action and its consequences, Ba Maw declared, adding that "a blow has been struck at last at the Western foothold in the Eastern world, and millions of East Asiatics have been liberated."

Welcoming the Nippon Government announcement that independence will be granted to the peoples of Indo-China as soon as conditions permit, the Burmese Head of State said the East Asiatic world, built upon the Declaration of East Asia Nations at Tokyo, has thus been completed. All East Asiatic peoples will very soon be free so that that East Asia will really belong to East Asiatics. There has been "no holier cause than this in the whole course of history."

Menzies Attacks Labour Government At Canberra

Lisbon, March 13 (Domei)—Robert G. Menzies, former Australian Prime Minister and Opposition Leader, today strongly criticized the Curtin Government with reference to the banking bills now before the Commonwealth Parliament, according to a Sydney dispatch.

The Australians today, Menzies stated, were living under a Government which was more menacing to the future of the country than any before. He said that the country was going down a "slippery slope."

Menzies charged the banking bills would mean in effect that the value of the Australian Pound would be fixed according to the mood of the Labour Party caucus at Canberra.

Kuala Kangsar Donates To Air Raid Victims

The Syonan Authorities have received a contribution of \$1,000 from the public of Kuala Kangsar towards the benefit of the local air raid victims, says the Kosei-ka Cho in a communique to the Press.

The amount has been contributed by the people of all communities in Kuala Kangsar and forwarded through the Governor of Perak.

This token of sympathy by the people of Kuala Kangsar is much appreciated by all communities in Syonan and will be a source of great consolation to the unfortunate sufferers.

Germans Crush Soviet Attacks On Oder Sector

Berlin, March 12 (Domei)—On both sides of the Sarviz Canal our assault troops advanced farther against stiffening Soviet resistance and overcame one tenaciously defended section of terrain, the Fuehrer's headquarters announced in a communique issued today. It continued in grim defensive fighting against Soviet attacks for four weeks with numerical superiority of four to one in the Slovak ore mountains, some heights were lost around Altsohl.

Continuous strong attacks of enemy rifle and tank units were smashed on both sides of Schwarzwasser and north of Ratibor by tenacious defence and determined counter-attacks by our divisions, the communique said. It added a Soviet combat group encompassed in the northern section of Striegau, despite stiff resistance was hemmed in further. The garrison of Breslau fortress maintains its positions in the grimest house-to-house fighting against the Soviet onrush, particularly in the southern part of the city. Between February 10 and February 28 41 enemy tanks and 239 guns and anti-tank guns were destroyed in these battles, the communique revealed, adding, moreover, the enemy suffered losses including 6,700 dead.

Between Frankfurt on the Oder and Kuestrin, German troops crushed attacks of the Soviets, the communique said. It continued in fighting for the Stettin bridgehead German units yesterday withstood the onrush of three Soviet armies, making energetic counter-attacks and destroying 28 tanks. The heavy defensive battle in West Prussia for entrances to the Danzig Bight continues with the Soviets reinforcing their troops there. In the Neustadt area German troops frustrated a breakthrough attempt by strong enemy tank forces in the direction of Gdynia.

Largescale fighting in Courland is continuing with undiminished violence in the region south of Frauenburg. Fighters and battleplanes brought down 65 Soviet planes on the Eastern Front yesterday.

On the Western Front in the Combres area American pressure continues in the direction of the Moselle. In one counter-thrust several localities north-west of Barncastel were recaptured. A small combat group of the Volks Grenadier Division personally led by the commander of the

Brilliant Achievements Of "Shimpu" Attack Corps

A Nippon Base in the Central Pacific, Mar. 12 (Domei)—Seven columns of fire were observed from among a group of enemy aircraft-carriers following the devastating attack launched by our "Shimpu" Special Attack Air Corps against the enemy base at Uluthi Island of the Caroline Group, north-east of Yap Island, on the night of Mar. 11.

It will be recalled that in the above surprise raid all planes of the Shimpu Special Attack Corps successfully body-crashed against enemy carriers concentrated at the enemy base.

Saigon Populace Indignant Over French Treachery

Saigon, March 12 (Domei)—Saigon after a night of silence returned to complete normalcy yesterday morning. Even Frenchmen who on March 10 refrained from going outdoors on account of the general unrest appeared on the streets, while Frenchwomen were seen riding bicycles to market to do their daily shopping. With the exception of two or three places, traffic restrictions have been entirely lifted.

Local inhabitants surprised over the non-co-operation and anti-Nippon military measures of the French Indo-China authorities, are voicing indignation against the action of their former rulers. Only a small number of Frenchmen, including the Governor-General, army commander and other high Government authorities, however, have been detained. Civilian Frenchmen and even Government officials who have pledged to co-operate with Nippon have been left unrestrained, except for the prohibition of hiding arms and going outdoors after sunset. The Nippon authorities have seen to it that their property is fully protected.

Frenchmen themselves expressed surprise at the lenient treatment accorded them in spite of Governor-General Jean Decoux's rejection of the just Nippon demands. Some French Government officials have even applied for continued employment at Government offices. Some Frenchmen are deeply critical over the anti-Nippon utterances and statements of F.I.C. Army leaders despite the Pact of Joint Defence between Nippon and French Indo-China. These fairminded French agree that these anti-Nippon acts were enough to tax Nippon's patience.

The average Frenchman in F.I.C. is regretful over the action taken by Governor-General Decoux and the army leaders and fails to comprehend just why the Governor-General rejected Nippon's demands for reinforcing the joint defence of F.I.C.

division, east of Trier, drove back the enemy who had scored a temporary penetration, and took numerous prisoners.

In the lower Alsace enemy reconnoitring raids failed. Essen was the target of British terror attacks yesterday, while American units dropped bombs on towns in north-west Germany, causing damage to residential quarters of Greater Hamburg.

Vatican Accused Of Fascist Leanings

Lisbon, Mar. 12 (Domei)—Dissatisfied over the attitude of the Catholic Church toward Russia's policy in Europe, the influential Soviet journal "War and Working Class", in its latest edition published today, charged the Vatican with supporting reactionary elements in Italy, according to a Moscow dispatch.

The journal accused that "the Vatican has done not a little to save from punishment a number of prominent Fascist leaders." It further charged, "It is the cherished ambition of the Vatican to preserve the principles of the Fascist system as far as possible without the Fascist sign-board."

Annam Pledges Full Support To Imperial Govt.

Hanoi, Mar. 12 (Domei)—Inspired by the declaration of independence of Annam by Emperor Bao Dai at Hue in Annam, the National Federation of Tonkin today issued a statement pledging full co-operation with Nippon in the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere.

The text of the statement follows:

"We Annamese people who have for many many years languished under the white men's tyranny of imperialistic France, have been able through the might of the Nippon forces to establish in a single day the foundation for the independence of Annam. Moreover, the 25 million of our fellow countrymen have been deeply touched by the Nippon Government's statement of Mar. 10 in which Nippon assured us of wholehearted support in the attainment of independence of Annam. We hereby pledge ourselves to do our utmost in wholeheartedly co-operating with the Nippon Empire in the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere."

Saigon, Mar. 13 (Domei)—Peace and order prevail among the inhabitants of this city as well as the cities of Cholon, Pnom Penh, Hanoi, Hue and other cities in French Indo-China. This was brought about by the quick action taken by the local Nippon military authorities who are working in the interest of the inhabitants.

Here and in Cholon there has been no change in economic conditions, while the prices of rice and corn, two important staple foodstuffs, remain unchanged. There has also been no speculation in buying and selling, while the value of the piastre remains unchanged and is being used as the medium of exchange without anxiety.

Thus, the disposal of the French Indo-China problem by the Nippon military authorities has gained the full trust and confidence of the local inhabitants as attested to by the continuous, steady activities in economic circles.

"Yorkshire Post" Slashes U.S. Criticism Of Br. Fleet

Lisbon, March 10 (Domei)—Terming the reports circulated by some American papers to the effect that the British Fleet is unfit for so-called Anglo-American joint naval operations in the Pacific as "uninformed and mischievous criticism," the "Yorkshire Post" today angrily declared that "little or more knowledge of the Royal Navy's record might have saved these critics from circulating such ill-timed absurdities which must be of particular embarrassment to the American naval authorities," according to a Reuter's dispatch.

No Restrictions On Fr. Residents Of Hongkong

Hongkong, March 12 (Domei)—The Government-General here on the afternoon of Mar. 10 took precautionary measures as regards French residents living in Nippon-occupied territory of Hongkong following the Nippon Government's decision to defend French Indo-China on its own responsibility. However, French residents of this city have voluntarily abided by the action taken by the Nippon Government and have adhered to the spirit of the Nippon-French Indo-China joint defence by offering unstinted co-operation with the military and civil authorities. They have also sworn to hold responsible any French citizens who violate this pledge, and are calmly going about their daily activities.

The Government-General, in consideration for this wholehearted co-operation by French residents here, has adopted the policy of extending special treatment to them by placing no restrictions on the rights and interests or property owned by the French Government or its citizens.

Excellent Opportunity For Food Farmers Here

Syonan, March 13 (Domei)—Affording an excellent opportunity to members of the public to take up food cultivation on a large scale Syonan Defence Headquarters Authorities through the Public Welfare Department of the Special Municipality have announced that a large area of land in Holland Road will be given to all those interested in farming.

It is learned that a large area of land in Holland Road and about 20 houses will be given to all persons interested in food cultivation.

Very good terms will be given to all settlers, a statement issued by the Public Welfare Department declares. Of the vegetables grown, half can be disposed by the farmers themselves while the remainder can either be sold to the Military Authorities or exchanged for rice with them.

Those wishing to avail themselves of this splendid opportunity to become farmers are asked to apply to the Syonan branch office of Fuji Village Catholic Colony, care of Victoria Street when further particulars will be supplied.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Mr. U. Siridasa de Silva tenders his heartfelt thanks to the many friends and relatives who attended the funeral of his late father, Mr. U. S. de Silva, sent wreaths and telegrams expressing sympathy, and rendered assistance in many ways. Thanks are also tendered to H. H. The Sultan of Johore for his tribute, as well as to firms and associations for their token of sympathy.

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